DODGE COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING March 1, 2013

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chair, MaryAnn Miller, at 8:00 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

MaryAnn Miller James Layman Ernest Borchardt Aaron David

Excused: Darrell Pollesch

Also Present: James Mielke, Dodge County Administrator; John Storck, Circuit Court Judge; Kurt Klomberg, District Attorney; Patrick Schoebel, Medical Examiner; Bernadette Mueller, Child Support Director; Todd Nehls, Dodge County Sheriff; Lynn Steger, Register in Probate.

Miller certifies compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Approval of Agenda and Allow for Deviation: Motion made by David to approve Agenda and to allow for deviation; second by Borchardt. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by David to approve Minutes of February 1, 2013; second by Borchardt. Motion carried.

Communications: None.

Committee Member Reports: None.

Circuit Court/Judge's Report: Judge Storck updates the Committee on the sound and video system installation. He reports that the process has gone smoothly with Josh Kohlhoff's help. Everything is done except for some tweaking; the Elmos do not yet work with the video conferencing equipment. The Courts moved out of the jury assembly room as of February 28th.

Child Support Report: Bernie Mueller indicates there is nothing to report from her department.

Clerk of Courts Report: Lynn Hron is not available today, however, Judge Storck is going to report on her behalf. Judge Storck advises that the Clerk of Courts lost two staff recently, Evelyn Mather to retirement and Bonnie Budde took the Deputy County Clerk position. At this time they are only going to refill one position; that position is being filled by the Clerk of Court's receptionist so now a new receptionist is needed. Judge Storck explains the new system the Courts are implementing to give assistance to Pro Se litigants in family cases. Currently the Court struggles to get Pro Se litigants to file their final closing paperwork, i.e. Findings of Fact,

Conclusions of Law and Judgment. With the new system, the court commissioner is going to give the closing paperwork to the individuals and encourage them to immediately go to a conference room to complete it. Steven Seim will be available to review the documents and the Clerks will be available to make copies. They want to keep litigants in the Courthouse to finish the paperwork the same day as their default divorce hearing; those documents are supposed to be filed within 30 days of the divorce, but unrepresented parties tend not to do the paperwork and then after 60 days the Court will schedule a hearing to find out why the documents have not been submitted. In addition, the Courts are requesting that attorneys volunteer time to assist Pro Se divorce litigants with forms and various issues. Attorney Eugene Kirschbaum, a semi-retired attorney from Beaver Dam, has offered to come two afternoons a month. Individuals will have to schedule a time to meet with the volunteer. There is hope that other attorneys will also volunteer. The attorney work room has been designated as the meeting room because it has a table, computer, and printer. Bernie Mueller questions whether their office could review the Judgments before they are complete. Judge Storck indicates that the Child Support office would have to send someone down on Monday afternoons in order to review those.

District Attorney Report: Kurt Klomberg indicates that they have submitted a request for changes in Bob Barrington's title, but not the job description. They are requesting his title be changed from Office Manager to Litigation Support Specialist. He does not believe any action is needed by the Committee; Miller suggests that they could recommend the change. Motion by David to recommend the change of Barrington's job title to Litigation Support Specialist; second by Borchardt. Motion Carried. Klomberg also indicates that they are making a formal request to change the job description of Dawn Bjork to Lead Legal Assistant. He explains that her position has differences from the other assistants. This will be reviewed and reported on in the future.

Medical Examiner Report: P.J. Schoebel reports that his office is running smoothly. There are two vacancies and on February 28th he received word that there are nine applicants. Schoebel and his Chief Deputy will be scheduling interviews. Next month he will have the quarterly report. Sheriff Nehls asks Schoebel if he has any gurneys that are not being used. The Sheriff's Dept. uses gurneys to transport food in the van. Schoebel states that he does not have any gurneys available, but he knows a guy and he will get that information to Rodney Kreitzman.

Before the Sheriff makes his report, the Committee thanks Todd Nehls for his years of service.

Sheriff's Department Report: Sheriff Nehls reports on personnel and the need to fill vacancies. They are interviewing for two patrol positions and his retirement brings the vacancies to three; he also anticipates more retirements. Nehls states that the Jail is being impacted by the sequestration in that the Feds pulled 35 prisoners from the Jail. He read a memorandum concerning the ICE inmates and the impact of the potential sequestration; yesterday 16 of the Federal inmates were brought to the Jail. Currently the Jail is receiving 250 Federal inmates a year; they now have the lowest number in years. Because of this, they are not filling vacant positions in the Jail in order to keep costs down.

Miller asks that the Sheriff update the Committee on the dive team. The Sheriff indicates that he tried to get a group together so that they could have a county-wide dive team because at this time the Beaver Dam Fire Department is the only such resource. After meetings with area fire chiefs,

etc. Nehls felt that there was not a lot of support for a county-wide team. He was advised that the Fire Chief in Beaver Dam wants to pursue this on his own; and is asking for \$250,000 in funding. Nehls believes a dive team should be at the County level; Dodge County has many bodies of water that could potentially cause problems. Jim Mielke advises that the Beaver Dam Fire Chief has talked with Russ Kotke. It is their position that the County cannot fully fund a dive team. Sheriff Nehls explains how as the Sheriff, he could get equipment that would be reimbursable by the State.

David questions the Sheriff on recent press concerning the heroine problem in Dodge County. The Sheriff confirms that heroine is a huge problem in Dodge County and the State of Wisconsin. He notes that many of the burglaries, thefts, etc. are drug driven. He states that just recently they recovered 16 grams of pure Methamphetamine. Nehls states that his drug guys are doing the best that they can, but there is no continuity in Dodge County. He would like to see a full time drug person in Beaver Dam. Nehls believes that offenders have no fear of getting caught because of the sentences they see in the newspapers, etc. He notes that there are few Huber inmates. Judge Storck states that part of the reason is related to OAR's and alcohol court. Klomberg comments.

Sheriff Nehls asks with regard to the next Sheriff appointment, if that person is chosen from the current staff, that the County Board consider allowing that person to take a leave of absence so that in the event that person would not prevail in an election, that they could return to their previous position.

Next Meeting: Friday, April 5, 2013, at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Justice Facility.

Adjournment: Motion by David to adjourn meeting; second by Borchardt. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Aaron David, Secretary

Lynn M. Steger, Recording Secretary